Thoothukudi-Colombo ferry services

814. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to proceed with the case of re-introduction of the Thoothukudi-Colombo ferry services disregarding the State Government's views;

(b) whether clearance has been obtained for this proposal from MHA, MEA and the Ministry of Defence; and

(c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Progress of NHDPs

815. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of National Highway Development Projects I and II is in progress;

(b) if so, whether Government are drawing up more highway development projects such as NHDP Phases III and IV and accelerated North-east Development Project involving a total cost of Rs. 1,17,200/- crore;

(c) if so, the total highway projects that Government have agreed to consider;

(d) the progress so far made for projects I and II;

(e) to what extent IIIrd and IVth phase of NHDP would be undertaken; and

(f) what amount is earmarked for these two projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry has framed two new projects which are still under proposal stage.

(d) The status of the National Highways Development Project Phase-I and Phase-II (including port connectivity and other projects) being implemented by the National Highways Authority of India as on 31.10.2004 is enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(e) and (f) Since NHDP-NE and NHDP Phase-III are under proposal stage, it is too early to give their extent and the amount earmarked for these projects.

Statement

Status of NHDP

Name of Projects under NHDP Phase I & II	Total Length (km.)	Completed Length (km.)	Length under implementation (km.)	Balance length to be awarded (km.)
Golden Quadrilateral (connecting four metros *i.e.* Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata)	5846	3294	2552	Nil
North-South & East-West Corridor (connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari & Porbandhar to Silchar)	7300	675	388	6237
Port Connectivity Projects (connecting major ports to NHDP)	356	69	229	58
Other projects	777	194	121	462
TOTAL:	14279	4232	3290	6757

Congestion at Container Port at Mumbai

816. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Container Port at Mumbai is totally congested and has become inefficient;